

New Hampshire Board of Nursing - Clinical Practice Advisories

This represents specific questions and rulings by the Board and is updated monthly following the Board meeting.		
QUESTION	BOARD OF NURSING RESPONSE	APPROVAL DATE
Is it within the scope of practice of a RN to manipulate/advance the endoscope with physician present?	It is allowed provided competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	October 16, 2003
Can the RN insert an intraosseous catheter?	It is allowed provided competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	October 16, 2003
Can the RN us ultrasound to locate deep veins when introducing PICC lines?	It is within the scope of practice of a RN provided competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	October 16, 2003
Can a LNA assist clients with the application of TENS units?	It is within the scope of practice for a LNA to assist clients with the application of TENS units provided competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	October 16, 2003
Is it within the scope of practice for a RN to perform jaw relocation for stable residents?	It is within the scope of practice for a RN to perform jaw relocation for stable residents provided competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	November 20, 2003
Is it within the RN scope of practice to practice Hypnotherapy?	The Board determined that it is within the RN scope of practice to practice Hypnotherapy.	November 20, 2003
Can nurses be held accountable for unlabeled medications at the bedside at Hospice House?	The Board opined that nurses could not be held accountable for unlabeled medications left at the bedside at Hospice House.	November 20, 2003
Does a faculty member from a nursing program in another state, who is overseeing a student practicum at a NH facility, have to have a NH RN license?	The Board opined that a NH license is not required, unless the faculty member is engaged in clinical supervision.	January 15, 2004
Is it within the scope of RN practice to take part in the insertion of PEG tubes?	It is it within the scope of RN practice to take part in the insertion of PEG tubes provided competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	January 15, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice for a LNA to start intravenous lines?	It is not within the scope of practice for a LNA to insert an intravenous line.	January 15, 2004
Can a candidate continue to reapply to take NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN regardless of the number of times failed?	There is no limitation to the number of times NCLEX can be taken. If candidate passes NCLEX after taking test multiple times, application to be flagged for review by the Board.	February 19, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice of a RN to administer contrast dye, IV push, in preparation for diagnostic examinations such as an echocardiogram?	The Board determined it is within the scope of practice.	February 19, 2004

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Is it within the scope of practice of a RN to attach a cardiac monitor, place a programmer wand over the pacemaker, interpret the cardiac rhythm, perform sensing tests, capture thresholds and reprogram the pacemaker per physician telephone orders?	The Board opined that it is within the scope of practice provided all competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	February 19, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice of a LPN to replace a PEG (Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy) tube?	It is within the scope of practice of a LPN to replace a PEG tube provided competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	March 18, 2004
Is the use of eye drops, with a short term numbing agent, within the RN scope of practice?	The use of eye drops is within the scope of practice of a RN, provided there is a physician order and competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	March 18, 2004
Are non-nursing certifications, such as Diabetes Education, Case Management and Risk Management eligible for continuing education contact hours?	Non-nursing certifications, such as Diabetes Education, Case Management and Risk Management are eligible for continuing education contact hours.	March 18, 2004
Can a LNA call in prescriptions to a pharmacy?	It is not within the scope of practice of a LNA to call in prescriptions to a pharmacy.	April 15, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice of a RN to practice acupuncture if s/he obtains the necessary education and licensure from the board of acupuncture?	The Board opined that nursing interventions, such as acupuncture, that are components of the Plan of Care and performed by a licensee who is competent to perform the intervention(s) are appropriately within the RN scope of practice.	April 15, 2004
Does a Nurse Practitioner faculty member from a nursing program in another state, who is overseeing a student practicum at a NH facility, have to have a NH RN license?	The Board opined that a NH license is not required unless the faculty member is engaged in clinical supervision.	April 15, 2004
Can a RN in the state of NH, practice home care in NH, based on a verbal order from an out of state physician?	The Board opined that yes, a RN can practice home care in NH based on a verbal order from an out of state physician.	May 20, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice of a LNA to change the tracheostomy collar that holds the tracheostomy in place?	The Board opined that it is within the scope of practice of a LNA to change the tracheostomy collar that holds the tracheostomy in place providing there is appropriate delegation under Nur 404, and competencies are met following Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).	June 17, 2004

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<p>1. Is it within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse to administer propofol to intubated, ventilated patients in a critical care setting?</p> <p>2. Is it within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse to administer propofol or succinylcholine, while assisting anesthesia personnel or emergency room physicians/ARNPs in emergency or rapid sequence inductions/intubation?</p> <p>3. Is it within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse to administer propofol as conscious sedation?</p>	<p>The Board reviewed the AANA-ASA Joint Statement Regarding Propofol Administration (April 14, 2004) and has ruled that:</p> <p>1. It is within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse, provided the competencies in Nur 305.01 (c) and (d) are met and are within the guidelines of the institution.</p> <p>2. Yes, provided the competencies in Nur 305.01 (c) and (d) are met and are within the guidelines of the institution.</p> <p>3. No, when propofol is used for sedation/anesthesia, it should be administered only by persons trained in the administration of general anesthesia, who are not simultaneously involved in these surgical or diagnostic procedures.</p> <p>* * #1-3 above also apply when other IV induction agents are used for sedation, such as thiopental, methohexital, etomidate, succinylcholine.</p>	July 15, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse to place a Bravo pH Capsule?	The Board opined that it is within the scope of a Registered Nurse, providing the competencies in Nur 305.01 (c) and (d) are met, with the presence of a MD or ARNP.	July 15, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse to call in prescriptions based on a protocol?	It is not within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse to call in prescriptions based on a protocol.	July 15, 2004
<p>1. May the RN, working in a cardiovascular ICU caring for postoperative open heart surgery patients, with additional education and documented clinical competency, remove chest tubes?</p> <p>2. May the RN who works in units other than the Cardiovascular ICU remove chest tubes?</p>	<p>1. The Board has reaffirmed its Spring 1997 advisory that chest tube removal be limited to RNs working in Cardiovascular ICU settings only and according to Nur 305.01 (c) and (d).</p> <p>2. It is not within the RN scope of practice to remove chest tubes in a setting other than a Cardiovascular ICU.</p>	October 21, 2004
Is it within the RN scope of practice to refill the reservoir of an intrathecal baclofen pump?	The Board opined that it is within the scope of practice of a RN to refill an intrathecal baclofen pump.	October 21, 2004
Is it within the scope of practice of the pre-op RN to mark the surgical skin site and not the surgeon performing the surgery?	The Board opined that it is not within the scope of practice of a RN to mark the surgical skin site. The person performing the procedure should do the site marking.	October 21, 2004